

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) ~~As~~ A reciprocating foot pedal exerciser for stepping, walking, jogging and running in place, enabling variable length strides comprising:

foot pedals for receiving user foot action at a forward step-down position on the exerciser;

support means for guiding said foot pedals ~~for~~ in a primarily back and forth motion in response to the user's foot action;

~~means for detecting the user's end of stride foot action and;~~

means for returning said foot pedals to a substantially constant forward step-down position ~~upon detection at the end of said end of each~~ stride independently of stride length.

2. (Currently Amended) The exerciser of claim 1 wherein ~~said means for detecting detects the user's step-down on one of said foot pedals and~~ said means for returning returns the other said foot pedal to a forward position using step-down energy.

3. (Original) The exerciser in accordance with claim 1 wherein said means for returning includes fluid means.

4. (Original) The exerciser in accordance with claim 1 wherein said means for returning comprises springs means.

5. (Cancel)

6. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 1 further including speed regulating means to control rearward motion of said foot pedals.

7. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 6 wherein said regulating means comprises spring and damper means.

8. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 6 wherein said regulating means comprises rotary resistance means.

9. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 6 wherein said regulating means comprises fluid means.

10. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 1 further including motorized speed regulating means to control rearward motion of said foot pedals.

11. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 10 wherein said regulating means comprises frictional drive means interconnecting said motorized means and said foot pedals.

12. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 10 wherein said regulating means comprises fluid pumping means interconnecting said motorized means and said foot pedals.

13. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 10 further comprising:

sensor means to sense the user's foot force rearward or forward on said foot pedal and;


control means to receive a signal from said sensor means and to vary the speed of said motorized speed regulating means in response to said foot force.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ The exerciser according to claim 1 further including foot pedal braking means to brake forward motion of said foot pedal when said user is standing on said foot pedal.

15. (Original) The exerciser according to claim 1 further including cushion means integral with said foot pedals or said support means to cushion the user's step-down on said foot pedal.

16. (Cancel)

17. (New) The exerciser according to claim 1 wherein said means for returning employs stride energy.

 18. (New) The exerciser of claim 1 wherein said means for returning employs energy sources external to a user.

19. (New) The exerciser of claim 1 wherein said means for returning employs stored energy from a plurality of sources.

20. (New) The exerciser of claim 18 wherein said external energy sources include fluid power means.

Claims 1, 2, 14:

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15:

Claims 5, 16:

Claims 17, 18, 19, 20:

Currently Amended

Original

Canceled

New